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## NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE AND FEE(S) DUE

7590

11/07/2008

William R. McClellan  
Wolf, Greenfield & Sacks, P.C.  
600 Atlantic Avenue  
Boston, MA 02210

EXAMINER

LAI, TUNG S

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2863

DATE MAILED: 11/07/2008

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/675,408	09/29/2003	Guy Harles	HD659.70012U/S00	6508

TITLE OF INVENTION: RANGING SYSTEM FOR DETERMINING RANGING INFORMATION OF A SPACECRAFT

APPLN. TYPE	SMALL ENTITY	ISSUE FEE DUE	PUBLICATION FEE DUE	PREV. PAID ISSUE FEE	TOTAL FEE(S) DUE	DATE DUE
nonprovisional	NO	\$1510	\$0	\$1440	\$1510	02/09/2009

THE APPLICATION IDENTIFIED ABOVE HAS BEEN EXAMINED AND IS ALLOWED FOR ISSUANCE AS A PATENT. **PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS CLOSED.** THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS. THIS APPLICATION IS SUBJECT TO WITHDRAWAL FROM ISSUE AT THE INITIATIVE OF THE OFFICE OR UPON PETITION BY THE APPLICANT. SEE 37 CFR 1.313 AND MPEP 1308.

THE ISSUE FEE AND PUBLICATION FEE (IF REQUIRED) MUST BE PAID WITHIN **THREE MONTHS** FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS NOTICE OR THIS APPLICATION SHALL BE REGARDED AS ABANDONED. **THIS STATUTORY PERIOD CANNOT BE EXTENDED.** SEE 35 U.S.C. 151. THE ISSUE FEE DUE INDICATED ABOVE DOES NOT REFLECT A CREDIT FOR ANY PREVIOUSLY PAID ISSUE FEE IN THIS APPLICATION. IF AN ISSUE FEE HAS PREVIOUSLY BEEN PAID IN THIS APPLICATION (AS SHOWN ABOVE), THE RETURN OF PART B OF THIS FORM WILL BE CONSIDERED A REQUEST TO REAPPLY THE PREVIOUSLY PAID ISSUE FEE TOWARD THE ISSUE FEE NOW DUE.

## HOW TO REPLY TO THIS NOTICE:

I. Review the SMALL ENTITY status shown above.

If the SMALL ENTITY is shown as YES, verify your current SMALL ENTITY status:

A. If the status is the same, pay the TOTAL FEE(S) DUE shown above.

B. If the status above is to be removed, check box 5b on Part B - Fee(s) Transmittal and pay the PUBLICATION FEE (if required) and twice the amount of the ISSUE FEE shown above, or

If the SMALL ENTITY is shown as NO:

A. Pay TOTAL FEE(S) DUE shown above, or

B. If applicant claimed SMALL ENTITY status before, or is now claiming SMALL ENTITY status, check box 5a on Part B - Fee(s) Transmittal and pay the PUBLICATION FEE (if required) and 1/2 the ISSUE FEE shown above.

II. PART B - FEE(S) TRANSMITTAL, or its equivalent, must be completed and returned to the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) with your ISSUE FEE and PUBLICATION FEE (if required). If you are charging the fee(s) to your deposit account, section "4b" of Part B - Fee(s) Transmittal should be completed and an extra copy of the form should be submitted. If an equivalent of Part B is filed, a request to reapply a previously paid issue fee must be clearly made, and delays in processing may occur due to the difficulty in recognizing the paper as an equivalent of Part B.

III. All communications regarding this application must give the application number. Please direct all communications prior to issuance to Mail Stop ISSUE FEE unless advised to the contrary.

**IMPORTANT REMINDER:** Utility patents issuing on applications filed on or after Dec. 12, 1980 may require payment of maintenance fees. It is patentee's responsibility to ensure timely payment of maintenance fees when due.

# **PART B - FEE(S) TRANSMITTAL**

**Complete and send this form, together with applicable fee(s), to:** **Mail** **Mail Stop ISSUE FEE**  
**Commissioner for Patents**  
**P.O. Box 1450**  
**Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450**  
**or Fax** **(571)-273-2885**

**INSTRUCTIONS:** This form should be used for transmitting the ISSUE FEE and PUBLICATION FEE (if required). Blocks 1 through 5 should be completed where appropriate. All further correspondence including the Patent, advance orders and notification of maintenance fees will be mailed to the current correspondence address as indicated unless corrected below or directed otherwise in Block 1, by (a) specifying a new correspondence address; and/or (b) indicating a separate "FEE ADDRESS" for maintenance fee notifications.

CURRENT CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESS (Note: Use Block 1 for any change of address)

Note: A certificate of mailing can only be used for domestic mailings of the Fee(s) Transmittal. This certificate cannot be used for any other accompanying papers. Each additional paper, such as an assignment or formal drawing, must have its own certificate of mailing or transmission.

7590 11/07/2008

William R. McClellan  
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 600 Atlantic Avenue  
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## **Certificate of Mailing or Transmission**

I hereby certify that this Fee(s) Transmittal is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage for first class mail in an envelope addressed to the Mail Stop ISSUE FEE address above, or being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO (571) 273-2885, on the date indicated below.

(Depositor's name)
(Signature)
(Date)

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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TITLE OF INVENTION: RANGING SYSTEM FOR DETERMINING RANGING INFORMATION OF A SPACECRAFT

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nonprovisional	NO	\$1510	\$0	\$1440	\$1510	02/09/2009

EXAMINER	ART UNIT	CLASS-SUBCLASS
LAU, TUNG S	2863	702-089000

1. Change of correspondence address or indication of "Fee Address" (37 CFR 1.363).

- ☐ Change of correspondence address (or Change of Correspondence Address form PTO/SB/122) attached.  
☐ "Fee Address" indication (or "Fee Address" Indication form PTO/SB/47; Rev 03-02 or more recent) attached. Use of a **Customer Number is required.**

2. For printing on the patent front page, list

- (1) the names of up to 3 registered patent attorneys or agents OR, alternatively, 1 \_\_\_\_\_  
 (2) the name of a single firm (having as a member a registered attorney or agent) and the names of up to 2 registered patent attorneys or agents. If no name is listed, no name will be printed. 2 \_\_\_\_\_  
 3 \_\_\_\_\_

3. ASSIGNEE NAME AND RESIDENCE DATA TO BE PRINTED ON THE PATENT (print or type)

PLEASE NOTE: Unless an assignee is identified below, no assignee data will appear on the patent. If an assignee is identified below, the document has been filed for recordation as set forth in 37 CFR 3.11. Completion of this form is NOT a substitute for filing an assignment.

(A) NAME OF ASSIGNEE

(B) RESIDENCE: (CITY AND STATE OR COUNTRY)

Please check the appropriate assignee category or categories (will not be printed on the patent): ☐ Individual ☐ Corporation or other private group entity ☐ Government

4a. The following fee(s) are submitted:

- ☐ Issue Fee  
☐ Publication Fee (No small entity discount permitted)  
☐ Advance Order - # of Copies \_\_\_\_\_

4b. Payment of Fee(s): (Please first reapply any previously paid issue fee shown above)

- ☐ A check is enclosed.  
☐ Payment by credit card. Form PTO-2038 is attached.  
☐ The Director is hereby authorized to charge the required fee(s), any deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account Number \_\_\_\_\_ (enclose an extra copy of this form).

5. Change in Entity Status (from status indicated above)

- ☐ a. Applicant claims SMALL ENTITY status. See 37 CFR 1.27. ☐ b. Applicant is no longer claiming SMALL ENTITY status. See 37 CFR 1.27(g)(2).

NOTE: The Issue Fee and Publication Fee (if required) will not be accepted from anyone other than the applicant; a registered attorney or agent; or the assignee or other party in interest as shown by the records of the United States Patent and Trademark Office.

Authorized Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_  
 Typed or printed name \_\_\_\_\_ Registration No. \_\_\_\_\_

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.311. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450.

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EXAMINER

LAU, TUNG S

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

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## Determination of Patent Term Adjustment under 35 U.S.C. 154 (b) (application filed on or after May 29, 2000)

The Patent Term Adjustment to date is 319 day(s). If the issue fee is paid on the date that is three months after the mailing date of this notice and the patent issues on the Tuesday before the date that is 28 weeks (six and a half months) after the mailing date of this notice, the Patent Term Adjustment will be 319 day(s).

If a Continued Prosecution Application (CPA) was filed in the above-identified application, the filing date that determines Patent Term Adjustment is the filing date of the most recent CPA.

Applicant will be able to obtain more detailed information by accessing the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) WEB site (<http://pair.uspto.gov>).

Any questions regarding the Patent Term Extension or Adjustment determination should be directed to the Office of Patent Legal Administration at (571)-272-7702. Questions relating to issue and publication fee payments should be directed to the Customer Service Center of the Office of Patent Publication at 1-(888)-786-0101 or (571)-272-4200.

# Notice of Allowability

## Application No.

10/675,408

## Examiner

TUNG S. LAU

## Applicant(s)

HARLES, GUY

## Art Unit

2863

### - The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 08/20/2008.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1,3-6,8-22,25 and 26.
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some\* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

## Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),  
Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),  
Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_.

**DETAILED ACTION**

**EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT**

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.  
  
Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mr. William R. McClellan Reg. # 29,409 on October 30, 2008

The application has been amended as follows:

Replace the claim 1, 6, 11 and 12 as follows:

1. (Currently amended) System for providing a common time base between different locations on earth, comprising:  
  
a first spacecraft (Sat 1A) carrying a first component of a communication channel, wherein the position of said first spacecraft (Sat 1A) is known,  
  
a plurality of receiving stations at different locations on earth, wherein each receiving station is adapted to receive a first reference signal from said first component,  
  
synchronisation means adapted to provide a synchronised time base between the plurality of receiving stations, and

correction means adapted to correct the synchronisation error of the synchronised time base by the known position of the first spacecraft (Sat 1A) and in accordance with the propagation time of each received first reference signal, wherein at least one receiving station comprises a correlation receiver yielding a correlation gain for receiving the first reference signal, wherein the first spacecraft transmits in a ~~main narrow spot beam~~footprint, which is the coverage area of a payload signal, and wherein the correlation receiver ~~is suitable for receiving~~receives the first reference signal outside the ~~main narrow spot beam~~footprint of the first spacecraft.

6. (Currently amended) Method for providing a common time base between different locations on earth with the aid of a first spacecraft (Sat 1A) carrying a first component of a communication channel, wherein the position of said first spacecraft (Sat 1A) is known, comprising the steps of:

receiving a first reference signal from said first component by a plurality of receiving stations at different locations on earth,

providing a synchronised time base between the plurality of receiving stations, and

correcting the synchronisation error of the synchronised time base by the known position of the first spacecraft (Sat 1A) and in accordance with the propagation time of each received first reference signal, wherein for at least one receiving

station a correlation method yielding a correlation gain for receiving the first reference signal is applied, the first spacecraft transmitting in a ~~main narrow spot beam~~footprint, which is the coverage area of a payload signal, and the correlation receiver receiving the first reference signal outside the ~~main narrow spot beam~~footprint of the first spacecraft.

11. (Currently amended) Processing station for providing a common time base between different locations on earth with the aid of a first spacecraft (Sat 1A) carrying a first component of a communication channel, wherein the position of said first spacecraft (Sat 1A) is known, comprising:

propagation time data receiving means adapted to receive propagation time data from a plurality of receiving stations at different locations on earth, wherein each receiving station is adapted to receive a first reference signal from said first component and wherein a synchronised time base is provided between the plurality of receiving stations, and

correction means adapted to correct the synchronisation error of the synchronised time base by the known position of the first spacecraft (Sat 1A) and in accordance with the propagation time of each received first reference signal, wherein at least one receiving station comprises a correlation receiver yielding a correlation gain for receiving the reference signal, wherein the first spacecraft transmits in a ~~main narrow spot beam~~footprint, which is the coverage area of a payload signal, and wherein the correlation receiver ~~is suitable for~~

~~receiving~~receives the first reference signal outside the ~~main-narrow-spot~~  
~~beam~~footprint of the first spacecraft.

12. (Currently amended) Processing method for providing a common time base between different locations on earth with the aid of a first spacecraft (Sat 1A) carrying a first component of a communication channel, wherein the position of said first spacecraft (Sat 1A) is known, comprising the steps of:

receiving propagation time data from a plurality of receiving stations at different locations on earth, wherein each receiving station is adapted to receive a first reference signal from said first component and wherein a synchronised time base is provided between the plurality of receiving stations, and

correcting the synchronisation error of the synchronised time base by the known position of the first spacecraft (Sat 1A) and in accordance with the propagation time of each received first reference signal, wherein at least one receiving station comprises a correlation receiver yielding a correlation gain for receiving the reference signal, the first spacecraft transmitting in a ~~main-narrow-spot~~  
~~beam~~footprint, which is the coverage area of a payload signal, and the correlation receiver receiving the first reference signal outside the ~~main-narrow-spot~~  
~~spot beam~~footprint of the first spacecraft.



Remarks: Amendments to claims 1, 6, 11 and 12 were made to define over the applied prior art. The additional step of "footprint, which is the coverage area of a payload signal" now positively claims the communication system defined in the specification. This system is deemed to be non-obvious over the systems of the prior art.

***Allowable Subject Matter***

2. Claims 1, 3-6, 8-22, and 25-26 are allowed.

***Reasons for Allowance***

3. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:  
Independent claims 1, 6, 11 and 12 contain allowable subject matter. None of the prior art of record shows or fairly suggests the claimed invention.

Regarding claim 1:

The primary reason for the allowance of claim 1 is the inclusion a system for providing a common time base between different locations on earth, including at least one receiving station comprises a correlation receiver yielding a correlation gain for receiving the first reference signal, wherein the first spacecraft transmits in a footprint, which is the coverage area of a payload signal, and wherein the correlation receiver receives the first reference signal outside the footprint of the first spacecraft. It is these features found in the claim, as they are claimed in the combination, that has not been found, taught or

suggested by the prior art of record which makes this claim allowable over the prior art.

Claims 3-5 and 13-17 are allowed due to their dependency on claim 1.

Regarding claim 6:

The primary reason for the allowance of claim 6 is the inclusion a system for method for providing a common time base between different locations on earth with the aid of a first spacecraft (Sat 1A) carrying a first component of a communication channel, wherein the position of said first spacecraft (Sat 1A) is known, including the steps of the first spacecraft transmitting in a footprint, which is the coverage area of a payload signal, and the correlation receiver receiving the first reference signal outside the footprint of the first spacecraft. . It is these features found in the claim, as they are claimed in the combination, that has not been found, taught or suggested by the prior art of record which makes this claim allowable over the prior art.

Claims 8-10 and 18-22 are allowed due to their dependency on claim 6.

Regarding claim 11:

The primary reason for the allowance of claim 11 is the inclusion a processing station for providing a common time base between different locations on earth

with the aid of a first spacecraft (Sat 1A) carrying a first component of a communication channel, wherein the position of said first spacecraft (Sat 1A) is known including the first spacecraft transmits in a footprint, which is the coverage area of a payload signal, and wherein the correlation receiver receives the first reference signal outside the footprint of the first spacecraft. . It is these features found in the claim, as they are claimed in the combination, that has not been found, taught or suggested by the prior art of record which makes this claim allowable over the prior art.

Claims 25 is allowed due to their dependency on claim 11.

Regarding claim 12:

The primary reason for the allowance of claim 12 is the inclusion a processing method for providing a common time base between different locations on earth with the aid of a first spacecraft (Sat 1A) carrying a first component of a communication channel, wherein the position of said first spacecraft (Sat 1A) is known, including the steps of the first spacecraft transmitting in a footprint, which is the coverage area of a payload signal, and the correlation receiver receiving the first reference signal outside the footprint of the first spacecraft. It is these features found in the claim, as they are claimed in the combination, that has not been found, taught or suggested by the prior art of record which makes this claim allowable over the prior art.

Claims 26 is allowed due to their dependency on claim 12.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

#### **Contact information**

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Tung S. Lau whose telephone number is 571-272-2274. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 9-5:30. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Drew Dunn can be reached on 571-272-2312. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Art Unit: 2863

/Tung S. Lau/

Tung S. Lau, Art Unit 2863

Primary Examiner

October 30, 2008